

Documents on Diplomacy: Resources

Key Players: Section IV, *Expansionism*

John Quincy Adams: Son of President John Adams, John Quincy Adams was a diplomat (U.S. Minister to the Netherlands and to Russia), Senator and Representative, Secretary of State and President. He was the primary author of the Monroe Doctrine.

Lord Alexander Ashburton: A British politician who negotiated the final settlement of the U.S.-Canadian border in an 1842 treaty that bears his names, the Webster-Ashburton Treaty.

Moses Austin: The first Anglo-American granted permission by the Spanish in 1821 to gather settlers for a new colony in Spanish-controlled territory. Austin died in 1821, but his son, Stephen, carried out the plan.

Stephen F. Austin: Known as the father of Texas, Austin founded the first Anglo-American community inside the newly independent nation of Mexico in 1825.

Albert Bierstadt: A German-American painter of the Hudson River School, Bierstadt was known for his majestic paintings of the unsettled territory of the West.

George Caleb Bingham: The first American artist from "the West" (Missouri), Bingham was well known for his scenes of everyday life in the developing West.

Albert Gallatin Brown: An ante-bellum Democratic Senator from Mississippi, Brown was a strong advocate for the expansion of slavery into Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

James Buchanan: Served in the House of Representatives and the Senate as well as U.S. Minister to both Great Britain and Russia. Buchanan was Secretary of State during the administration of President James Polk and later became President.

John C. Calhoun: An influential Southern politician from South Carolina, Calhoun served as both Secretary of War (1817-1825) and Secretary of State (1844-1845). While Secretary of State, Calhoun negotiated the final border of the Oregon country (at the 49th parallel) in 1845.

George Canning: A British politician who served as Foreign Secretary and Prime Minister, Canning was Foreign Minister when President Monroe proclaimed the Monroe Doctrine. Since the doctrine suited British policy, Canning did not challenge it. In effect, the British navy enforced Monroe's fiat.

George Catlin: An American painter who specialized in painting of Native American life in the first half of the 19th century.

Henry Clay: A prominent American statesman from Kentucky who served as Secretary of State from 1825 to 1829. He opposed the annexation of Texas, the Mexican-American War, and the policy of Manifest Destiny.

Thomas Cole: A 19th century American painter known as the father of the Hudson River School. He is known for his paintings of pristine wilderness.

Don Augustin Iturbide: A Mexican army general, Iturbide became Emperor of Mexico in 1822, serving less than one year. Although he abdicated the throne, he later returned to Mexico and was executed in July 1824.

Andrew Jackson: Commanded U.S. forces against the British during the Battle of New Orleans. He was later elected President and was the first President to have no prior diplomatic experience.

James Madison: Secretary of State during the administration of President Thomas Jefferson, He later became President of the United States.

James Monroe: Served as U.S. Minister to France from 1794-1796. He also helped negotiate the Louisiana Purchase. He was the first to proclaim the policy that still carries his name.

John L. O'Sullivan: An American journalist and newspaper editor who first used the phrase, "Manifest Destiny" to promote the annexation of Texas and the Oregon country in 1845.

Don Luis de Onís: A Spanish diplomat who served as minister to the United States from 1809-1819. He is remembered for his part in negotiating the Adams-Onís Treaty with John Quincy Adams in 1819.

Commodore Matthew Perry: The American naval officer who used both bluster and diplomacy to open diplomatic relations with Japan.

James K. Polk: Polk served as President of the United States from 1845-1849 and was closely identified with the policies of expansionism and Manifest Destiny.

Pierre Soulé: A strong advocate of the American annexation of Cuba, Soulé was appointed U.S. Minister to Spain in 1852. In 1854 he met with the American ministers to Britain and France in Belgium, where they drew up the Ostend Manifesto. He is probably best known for fighting two duels and being ostracized from Spanish society during tenure as U.S. Minister to Spain.

Nicholas Trist: A pro-slavery American diplomat who negotiated an end to the Mexican-American War in 1848 against the wishes of President James Polk. Trist was immediately fired and it took him 23 years to be paid for his expenses. Trist was married to Thomas Jefferson's granddaughter and was present at his death bed.

Daniel Webster: A leading American statesman who twice served as Secretary of State. He negotiated the Webster-Ashburton Treaty, finalizing the eastern boundary of the United States.

James Smith Wilcocks: Served as U.S. Consul and Commercial Agent in Mexico City, 1822-1823.